

Murfreesboro Police Department

Media Release

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Officers grow out beards for charity

Murfreesboro police officers and detectives will soon participate in the American Cancer Society's "No Shave November". The goal of "No-Shave November" is to "grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose." The ACS encourages participants to "donate the money you usually spend on shaving and grooming for a month to educate about cancer prevention, save lives, and aid those fighting the battle." More information and a link for donations can be found at www.no-shavenovember.com.



In support of this effort, participating officers and detectives will be donating money to the American Cancer Society in order for the Chief of Police to waive the department's policy regarding shaving during the month of November.

Since the Officers participating are always in contact with the public, they hope to spread awareness of the fundraiser and the needs of the American Cancer Society just by being visible in public with their bearded faces.

The Department believes this will not affect the officer's ability to perform their duties and the officers will have restrictions that will allow them to be safe while growing the beard. Chief Chrisman stated: "If you see an officer in the field looking a bit scruffy, don't worry, they are growing their beards for a good cause and they will be back to smooth faces December 1st."

At the conclusion of the 2013 campaign, officers raised over \$2,200 for the American Cancer Society. Officers from each shift and division nominated an officer with the best beard to participate in a "Beard-off" to be considered for the "Best Beard Award". After reviewing each of the officers' beards, City Manager Rob Lyons selected Officer Joshua Meredith as having the Department's "Best Beard".

Officer Meredith was presented with a certificate and he, Chief Glenn Chrisman and City Manager Rob Lyons then met at Drakes Barber Shop where the owner, Jason Rigney, gave each a free shave.



Left to Right: Jim Crumley, Bill Drye, Joshua Meredith, Rob Lyons
Glenn Chrisman, Tim Higgins, Doug Arrington